Additional Collector of Customs and Central Excise, Allahabad Collectorate was shot at, in the evening of 24-3-1993 by unidentified assailants. The matter is under investigation by the CID of the State Police.

(e) The question of *ex gratia* payment under the CCS Pension Rules, 1972 to the dependents of Shri Arora, is under consideration.

Grants of DA and Bonus to Central Government Employees

162. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have so far taken any decision for or against granting of DA/Bonus to Central Government employees;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and if not, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any budgetary provisions have been made in the current year for this purpose; if so, what are the details thereof;

(d) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a newsitem published in the Financial Express dated the 7th April, 1993 captioned "any move to freeze payment of dearness allowance (DA) and Bonus for one year" might lead to widespread work stoppages and agitations by Trade Unions like CITU. (The Centre of Indian Trade Unions and BMS. The Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh etc.;

(e) if so, what is the reaction of the Central Government thereto; and

(f) by when the decision is likely to be announced by his Ministry in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY) : (a) to (f) The additional instalment of dearness allowance due from 1-1-93 to the Central government employees has since been released. Bonus is normally paid to the Central government employees in September/October every year. Therefore, a decision on grant of bonus would be taken at the appropriate time.

The expenditure on additional dearness allowance is required to be absorbed by all Ministries/Departments within the approved budget provision for the year 1993-94.

Detentions under COFEPOSA

163. SHRI MOHAMMED SALIM :
SHRI SUKOMAL SEN :
SHRI M. A. BABY :
SHRI ASHIS SEN :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the number of persons detained under COFEPOSA during the years 1990, 1991, 1992 and so far in 1993 with year-wise details;

(b) whether there is any declining trend, if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what are the details of remedial measures taken to check the said decline?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY) : (a) and (b) The number of persons detained under COFEPOSA during the years 1990 onwards year-wise is given below :

Calendar Year	No. of persons detained
1990	749
1991	751
1992	423
1993 (Upto 31st March)	80

In 1992 and upto 31st March, 1993, there has been a decline.